

Minutes

April 8, 2019

Executive Committee

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the South Carolina Military Base Task Force convened on April 8, 2019, at 2:00 PM at the USC Alumni Center, 900 Senate Street, Columbia.

A notice of the meeting was posted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

The following people were in attendance: William L. Bethea, Jr. (Chairman), Charlie Farrell (Executive Coordinator), Dan Beatty (Columbia), Steve Creech (Sumter), Jim Wegmann (Beaufort), Haidee Stith (Director of Communications), and Sandy Claypoole (Program Manager).

Bill Bethea called the meeting to order.

Bill announced that H. 3438, a bill to change the Division of Veteran's Affairs to a cabinet level position renamed the Department of Veteran's Affairs, passed the House and Senate and is waiting on ratification and the Governor's signature. The bill also moves the South Carolina Military Base Task Force under the Department of Veteran's Affairs. Once it is signed by the Governor, the law becomes effective July 1, 2019.

There were some votes in the House against the bill because it does not appoint representation from the Upstate to the Task Force. Bill reached out to several of those individuals to make them aware of the Upstate Advisory Group we started last year. This group began after the Economic Impact Study showed the Upstate contributes \$2.2 billion to the state's economy, even though there is no military base in the area.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Claypoole